

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 9, 2005. In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 7-11 and 13-26 are pending. Claims 6 and 12 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 1, 7, 8, 11, 14 and 15 have been amended. Claims 18-26 have been added. Support for the claim changes and the added claims can be found in the original specification, and therefore no new matter has been added. Claims 1, 8, 11, 14 and 15 are in independent form.

The specification was objected on six formal points, as noted at page 2, paragraph 1 of the Office Action.

In regard to the first two points, Applicants note that these points have already been attended to in the Substitute Specification (paragraph [0038]) filed on February 23, 2004.

In regard to the third point, Applicants submit that no amendment is necessary, because Figure 2 shows the card edge contact 3 of the recording head 1001 (see paragraphs [0017] and [0036] of the Substitute Specification). The illustration shown in Figure 2 is consistent with the description given in the specification.

In regard to the fourth point, "recording element unit H1001" has been amended herein to --recording element unit H1002-- at paragraph [0051] of the Substitute Specification (page 18, line 23 and page 19, line 8 of the original specification) and paragraph [0057] of the Substitute Specification (page 21, line 20 of the original specification).

In regard to the fifth point, “3c” has been amended herein to --3b-- at paragraph [0062] of the Substitute Specification (page 24, line 13 of the original specification). It is noted that “3” was already changed to --3b-- in paragraph [0062] of the Substitute Specification (page 24, line 16 of the original specification).

In regard to the sixth point, “recording head unit 1002” (paragraph [0066] of the Substitute Specification (page 26, line 23 of the original specification)) and “recording head unit H1002” (paragraph [0075] of the Substitute Specification (page 32, lines 9-10 of the original specification)) have been amended herein to --recording element unit H1002--.

Support for the changes to the specification can be found in the original specification, and therefore no new matter has been added.

Claims 8, 13 and 15 were objected to on formal grounds, as noted at page 2 of the Office Action. Applicants note that the corrections required by the Examiner were already made in the Preliminary Amendment filed on February 23, 2004.

In view of the above-noted amendments and the above remarks, withdrawal of the objections to the specification and claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation that Claims 6-10, 12, 14 and 15 have been indicated as allowable if rewritten so as not to depend from a rejected claim. Since independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claim 6, independent Claim 11 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claim 12, and dependent Claims 8, 14 and 15 have been rewritten in independent form, Claims 1, 8, 11, 14 and 15 are believed allowable. Since the remaining claims pending in this application are each dependent from one or another of Claims 1, 8, 11, 14 and 15, the remaining claims are also believed allowable.

Applicants note the Examiner's explanation of the reasons for indicating allowable subject matter. In that regard, it is noted that the Office Action cites language of the original claims rather than of the claims as amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed on February 23, 2004. Nonetheless, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is allowable for its combination of claimed features.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the subject application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue are respectfully requested.

REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PREVIOUSLY-FILED PAPERS

Claim to Priority and Submission of Priority Documents

The Examiner has not acknowledged the claim for priority or receipt of the certified copies of the priority documents. Applicants hereby request acknowledgment of the same.

Information Disclosure Statements

The Examiner has not returned initialed copies of the Forms PTO-1449 from the Information Disclosure Statements filed on December 1, 2003 and March 17, 2004. Applicants hereby request the same, indicating that the Examiner has considered the information cited therein.

Preliminary Amendment and Substitute Specification

It is noted that many of the objections to the specification and claims noted above had already been attended to by Applicants in the Substitute Specification and the Preliminary Amendment, which were filed on February 23, 2004, prior to the issuance of the instant Office Action. It is further noted that the Substitute Specification and the Preliminary Amendment filed on February 23, 2004, as well as the Information Disclosure Statements filed on December 1, 2003 and March 17, 2004, were timely entered into the Image File Wrapper of the subject application, prior to the issuance of the instant Office Action, as verified by PAIR.

Conclusion

Applicants contacted the Examiner by telephone on July 7, 2005 to inquire whether the Examiner was in receipt of the above-noted filed papers. The Examiner confirmed that she was in receipt of the same, and indicated that she would provide written acknowledgment of such receipt in her next communication.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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